

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2000

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN

SUBJ: SECOND COMMITTEE--ITEM 105, WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

1. AFTER STATEMENTS BY 25 DELS SECOND COMITE ADOPTED
WITHOUT VOTE ECOSOC RES CALLING FOR CONVENING OF WFC
FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS IN NOVEMBER 1974 AT ROME. MOST SPEAKERS
STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF CONFERENCE AND ANNOUNCED INTENTION
TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPCOMS.

2. AMONG EES THE COMMON LINE OF GDR, USSR, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA
WAS:

A. THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE BETTER IF HELD AT A DATE LATER
THAN NOV 1974;

B. THEY WILL PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN PREPCOMS; AND

C. THE MAIN AGENDA ITEMS SHOULD BE LAND REFORM, FARM
COOPERATIVES, AND ELIMINATION OF PRICE MANIPULATIONS SUCH
AS SUBSIDY AGREEMENTS OR RESTRICTIONS ON UTILIZED
ACREAGE. THEY DO NOT EXPECT THE WFC TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM,
BUT RATHER TO ANALYZE IT AND SUGGEST WAYS TO DEAL WITH IT.
ROMANIA ALSO STATED INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPCOMS,
BUT IT ENDORSED 1974 ON THE DATE OF THE WFC AND SAID
THAT MAJOR EMPHASIS SHOULD BE PLACED ON INCREASING PRODUCTION
IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

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3. WEOS STRESSED NEED FOR WFC BUT WARNED AGAINST INCLUSION
OF TOO MANY ITEMS ON AGENDA. SWEDEN POINTED OUT THAT THE
AGENDA MUST BE RESTRICTED AND CERTAINLY SHOULD NOT INCLUDE
TRADE QUESTIONS. FRG SAID WFC SHOULD DEAL WITH QUESTION

OF FOOD RELIEF AND FOOD STOCKS BUT NEITHER PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT NOR TRADE. ICELAND SUGGESTED INSTITUTION OF A WORLD FOOD BANK CONTROLLED BY FAO.

4. MOST OF 14 LDCS SPEAKING ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL PARTICIPATE IN PREPCOMS. WHILE GENERALLY THEY NOTED THE WFC MUST DEAL WITH FOOD PRODUCTION AND TRADE OF LDCS, YUGOSLAVIA SAID THAT THE WFC SHOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH NEGOTIATIONS IN OTHER FORA BY ATTEMPTING TO NEGOTIATE SPECIFIC POINTS BUT SHOULD RATHER DEFINE GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR WORLD FOOD POLICY. PHILIPPINES RAISED CONCEPT OF MINIMUM FOOD SECURITY AND SAID THAT AGENDA SHOULD INCLUDE STOCKPILING POLICIES, PROVISION OF SUPPLIES WHEN NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN MINIMUM FOOD SECURITY AND PRODUCTION IN LDCS.
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